

I-65 to US 31W Connector

October 2003 KYTC Item No. 03-16.00

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet invites you to a

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Where:

Warren East High School Cafeteria

When:

Thursday, October 9 From 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Project Purpose & Need

The purpose of this project is to provide improved accessibility between I-65 and US 31W to serve a rapidly developing industrial area. The existing and on-going development of the Kentucky Transpark, Scotty's Industrial Park and other industrial facilities near the existing US 31W/US 68-KY 80 intersection has intensified the need for the development of this highway project.

The needs being addressed by the I-65 to US 31W Connector are as follows:

- 1. Address future transportation demand on the existing highway network of from the rapidly developing industrial area in the vicinity of the project.
- 2. Enhance regional system linkage to allow for system connectivity and provide direct access to on-going industrial development.
- 3. Support the completion of the I-65 to US 31W Connector to carry out the legislative intent.

Public Information Meeting to Display Preliminary Alternatives

The purpose of the upcoming public information meeting is to display what the project team is currently investigating for the I-65 to US 31W Connector, to encourage a public understanding of the project's purpose and need and to seek public input on the preliminary alternatives identified for the project. The meeting is being held to assist the team in determining which direction the project will proceed from this point forward.

In advance of the meeting, the project team has identified six preliminary alternatives for the I-65 to US 31W Connector project (outlined and shown on the following page). Following the public meeting, the input received at the meeting will be coupled with other engineering, environmental and traffic factors and the team will evaluate these potential corridors to determine the most feasible alternatives to carry into more detailed analysis and evaluation. As a result, the project team will then produce either an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement comparing those alternatives.

Contacts

Address written comments to:

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Or you may contact by phone or email:

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For More Information

KYTC District 3 Website:

http://www.kytc.state.ky.us/D3/d3.asp

Preliminary Alternatives

Preliminary alternatives have been identified for the I-65 to US 31W Connector that include:

- No-Build consisting of the existing highway system plus any currently programmed highway improvements, such as reconstruction of KY 101
- Transportation System Management (TSM) consisting of the improvement, installation and linking of traffic signals from along KY 446 and US 31W and the addition of left/right turn lanes
- KY 446/US 31W Upgrade & Widening consisting of the widening of KY 446 and US 31W to 6 lanes from I-65 to US 68/KY 80 and reconfiguration of KY 446/US 31W Interchange
- US 68/KY 80 Interchange Modification and Widening consisting of the modification of the existing I-65/US 68 Interchange to include all ramps and the widening of US 68/KY 80 from I-65 to US 31W to four lanes
- New I-65 to US 31W Connector consisting of the construction of a new roadway from I-65 to US 31W including a new interchange on I-65 and an at-grade intersection at US 31W

New I-65 to US 31W Connector with US 68/KY 80 Interchange – consisting of the construction of a new roadway from I-65 to US 31W including a new interchange on I-65, a new interchange at the intersection of US 68/KY 80 and the connector and an at-grade intersection at US 31W

Next Steps

The next steps in this project include the following.

- Evaluate the preliminary alternatives identified to determine the most feasible alternatives to carry forward.
- Hold a second Public Information Meeting toward the end of 2003 to inform the public of the results of the initial screening of alternatives.
- Conduct the necessary baseline studies of various environmental considerations.
- Produce either an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement.
- Initiate design and construction plan development for the preferred alternative.

